AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A seal for a hydraulic cylinder rod, comprising:

a main body defining an opening therein and including an inner surface, an outer surface, a first radial face having a generally planar surface extending from the inner surface to the outer surface, a second radial face extending from the inner surface to the outer surface and having a groove disposed therein, the groove defining an inner lip adjacent the inner surface and an outer lip adjacent the outer surface; and

a relief feature disposed in the outer surface of the main body, the relief feature including a channel formed in the outer surface and extending from the first radial face to a recess having a circular shape and being disposed in the outer lip of the main body, wherein a ridge separates the recess from the second radial face, the recess of the relief feature is adapted to receive a pressurized fluid from the first radial face through the channel, and the outer lip of the main body is adapted to flex to allow a flow of pressurized fluid from the first radial face to the second radial face when the pressure of the fluid at the first radial face is greater than the pressure of a fluid at the second radial face.

2. (Canceled) The seal of claim 1, wherein the relief feature includes a channel formed in the outer surface and extending from the first radial face to a recess.

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3. (Canceled) The seal of claim 1, wherein the recess has a circular shape.

4. (Previously Amended) The seal of claim 1, further including a second channel extending along the first radial face and connecting with said channel in the outer surface.

5. (Original) The seal of claim 1, further including a plurality of relief features disposed along the outer surface.

6. (Original) The seal of claim 1, wherein the main body has a substantially circular shape.

7. (Currently Amended) A hydraulic cylinder assembly, comprising:

a housing defining at least one chamber configured to hold a pressurized fluid, the housing having a head defining an opening;

a cylinder rod having a surface and disposed for sliding movement in the opening of the housing; and

a seal having a main body defining an opening configured to receive the cylinder rod therein, the main body including an inner surface, an outer surface, a first radial face having a generally planar surface extending from the inner surface to the outer surface, a second radial face extending from the inner surface to the outer surface and having a groove disposed therein, the groove defining an inner lip adjacent the inner surface and an outer lip adjacent the outer surface, the inner lip configured to engage the surface of

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the cylinder rod, the main body further including a relief feature disposed in the outer surface of the main body, the relief feature including a channel formed in the outer surface and extending from the first radial face to a recess having a circular shape and being disposed in the outer lip of the main body, wherein a ridge separates the recess from the second radial face, the recess of the relief feature is adapted to receive a pressurized fluid from the first radial face through the channel, and the outer lip of the main body is adapted to flex to allow a flow of pressurized fluid from the first radial face to the second radial face when the pressure of the fluid at the first radial face is greater than the pressure of a fluid at the second radial face.

8. (Previously Amended) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 7, further including a second seal configured to engage the surface of the cylinder rod between the at least one chamber and the inner lip of said first seal and a third seal configured to engage the surface of the cylinder rod at a location where both the first and second seals engage the surface of the cylinder rod between the at least one chamber and the third seal.

9. (Original) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 8, wherein the housing includes a first annular groove configured to receive the first seal, a second annular groove configured to receive the second seal, and a third annular groove configured to receive the third seal.

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10. (Original) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 7, wherein the relief feature includes a channel formed in the outer surface and extending from the first radial face to a recess.

11. (Cancelled) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 7, wherein the recess has a circular shape.

12. (Previously Amended) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 7, further including a second channel extending along the first radial face and connecting with said channel in the outer surface.

13. (Original) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 7, further including a plurality of relief features disposed along the outer surface.

14. (Original) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 7, wherein the main body has a substantially circular shape.

15. (Original) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 8, wherein the second seal is a buffer seal.

16. (Original) The hydraulic cylinder assembly of claim 8, wherein the third seal is a wiper seal.

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